

AMENDMENTS

Claim amendments:

1. (Currently Amended) A user interface for creating and editing a viewer profile used in a device for determining programming events of interest to a viewer, the user interface comprising:

~~a viewer profile identifier tool for receiving input from a user specifying an identifier of a viewer profile to be created or edited;~~

a category tool for receiving input from a user specifying predefined subject matter categories representing subject matter of interest to the viewer, wherein the subject matter represented by each of said predefined categories is defined such that the predefined categories together form a hierarchy comprising at least a set of top-level categories, respective sets of first level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a top level category, and respective sets of second level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a first level sub-category, and

wherein said category tool is responsive to user navigation commands to provide navigation among said predefined categories in accordance with said hierarchy comprising preference scores, each inputted preference score being specified for a respective category within a hierarchy of categories and representing an amount of user interest in subject matter of the respective category; and

~~a keyword tool for receiving input from a user specifying keywords.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, wherein said user interface further comprises a keyword tool for receiving input from a user specifying keywords representing subject matter of interest to the viewer ~~is a graphical user interface and said user interface comprises a sliding bar for indicating a preference score associated with a category.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 2, wherein said input received by said keyword tool further receives input comprising

~~comprises keyword preference scores associated with specified keywords and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described by the associated represented by a specified keyword.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 13, wherein said input received by said category tool comprises category preference scores indicating an amount of viewer interest in subject matter represented by a specified predefined category~~user interface is a graphical user interface and said user interface comprises a sliding bar for indicating a keyword preference score associated with a keyword.~~

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Cont. 5. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, further comprising a qualified keyword tool for receiving input from a user indicating that a keyword specified by the user represents subject matter of interest to the viewer only when that subject matter is also represented by a specified one of said predefined categories~~comprising both a keyword and a category of the category hierarchy with which the keyword is specifically associated.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 5, wherein said qualified keyword tool further receives input comprising qualified keyword preference scores associated with specified keywords and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described represented by the specified qualified keyword.

7. (Currently Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 46, wherein said user interface is a graphical user interface and said user interface comprises a sliding bar for indicating a qualified keyword-category preference score associated with a qualified keywordspecified category.

8. (Previously Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, further comprising a priority tool for receiving input from a user specifying a priority of

said viewer profile relative to other viewer profiles when multiple viewer profiles are used for determining programming events of interest.

9. (Previously Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alerts per time period tool for receiving input from a user specifying a maximum number of alerts to be generated within a given time period using said viewer profile.

10. (Previously Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, further comprising an alert time advance tool for receiving input from a user specifying, for a programming event determined to be of interest using said viewer profile, an amount of time prior to the programming event that an alert for the programming event is to be provided.

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11. (Previously Amended) The user interface claimed in claim 1, further comprising a profile activation time tool for receiving input from a user specifying times of day during which the viewer profile is to be used for identifying programming events of interest.

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12. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a viewer profile used for determining programming events of interest to a viewer, comprising:

~~receiving input from a user specifying an identifier of a viewer profile to be created or edited; receiving user input for navigation among predefined subject matter categories, wherein the subject matter represented by each of said predefined categories is defined such that the predefined categories together form a hierarchy comprising at least a set of top-level categories, respective sets of first level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a top level category, and respective sets of second level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a first level sub-category, and wherein said navigation is performed in accordance with said hierarchy;~~
~~receiving input from a the user specifying predefined categories of said hierarchy representing subject matter of interest to the viewer comprising~~

~~preference scores, each inputted preference score being specified for a respective category within a hierarchy of categories and representing an amount of user interest in subject matter of the respective category; and~~

~~storing said preference scores for said categories in association with said identifier as data representing said specified predefined categories in a viewer profile in a computer readable medium.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The method claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving input from a user ~~comprising specifying a keyword representing subject matter of interest to the viewer.~~

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14. (Currently Amended) The method claimed in claim 13, further ~~comprising receiving input from a user comprising wherein said input specifying a keyword comprises a keyword preference score associated with a specified keyword and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described by the associated represented by a specified keyword.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method claimed in claim ~~13~~12, further comprising receiving qualified keyword input from a user indicating that a keyword specified by the user represents subject matter of interest to the viewer only when that subject matter is also represented by a specified one of said predefined categories~~comprising both a keyword and a category of the category hierarchy with which the keyword is specifically associated.~~

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16. (Currently Amended) The method claimed in claim ~~12~~15, further ~~comprising receiving input from a user comprising a wherein said input specifying a predefined category comprises a category preference score associated with a specified keyword and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described by the represented by a specified keyword category.~~

17. (Previously Amended) The method claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving input from a user specifying a priority of said viewer profile relative to other viewer profiles when multiple viewer profiles are used for determining programming events of interest.

18. (Previously Amended) The method claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving input from a user specifying a maximum number of alerts to be generated using said viewer profile within a given period of time.

19. (Previously Amended) The method claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving input from a user specifying, for a programming event determined to be of interest using said viewer profile, an amount of time prior to the programming event that an alert for the programming event is to be provided.

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20. (Previously Amended) The method claimed in claim 12, further comprising receiving input from a user specifying times of day during which the viewer profile is to be used for identifying programming events of interest.

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21. (Currently Amended) A programmable device for determining programming events of interest to a viewer, the device comprising a computer readable medium storing programming code to control the device to perform processing comprising:
at least one processor; and
storage media coupled to the at least one processor and having stored therein programming instructions for performing data processing comprising:
receiving input from a user specifying an identifier of a viewer profile to be created or edited;
receiving input from the user for navigation among predefined subject matter categories, wherein the subject matter represented by each of said predefined categories is defined such that the predefined categories together form a hierarchy comprising at least a set of top-level categories, respective sets

of first level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a top level category, and respective sets of second level sub-categories each corresponding to and encompassed by a first level sub-category, and wherein said navigation is performed in accordance with said hierarchy;

receiving input from a the user specifying predefined categories representing subject matter of interest to the viewer~~comprising preference scores, each inputted preference score being specified for a respective category within a hierarchy of categories and representing an amount of user interest in subject matter of the respective category; and~~

storing said preference scores for said categories in association with said identifier as data representing said specified predefined categories in a viewer profile.

22. (Currently Amended) The device claimed in claim 21, said processing further comprising receiving input from a user ~~comprising~~ specifying a keyword representing subject matter of interest to the viewer.

23. (Currently Amended) The device claimed in claim 22, wherein said processing further comprising receiving input from a user comprising input specifying a keyword comprises a keyword preference score associated with a specified keyword and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described by the associated represented by a specified keyword.

24. (Currently Amended) The device claimed in claim ~~22~~24, said processing further comprising receiving qualified keyword input from a user indicating that a keyword specified by the user represents subject matter of interest to the viewer only when that subject matter is also represented by a specified one of said predefined categories~~comprising both a keyword and a category of the category hierarchy with which the keyword is specifically associated.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The device claimed in claim 21~~24~~, said ~~processing further comprising receiving input from a user comprising a wherein~~ said input specifying a predefined category comprises a category preference score associated with a specified keyword and representing indicating an amount of user-viewer interest in subject matter described by the represented by a specified keyword category.

26. (Previously Amended) The device claimed in claim 21, said processing further comprising receiving input from a user specifying a priority of said viewer profile relative to other viewer profiles when multiple viewer profiles are used for determining programming events of interest.

27. (Previously Amended) The device claimed in claim 21, said processing further comprising receiving input from a user specifying a maximum number of alerts to be generated using said viewer profile within a given period of time.

28. (Previously Amended) The device claimed in claim 21, said processing further comprising receiving input from a user specifying, for a programming event determined to be of interest using said viewer profile, an amount of time prior to the programming event that an alert for the programming event is to be provided.

29. (Previously Amended) The device claimed in claim 21, said processing further comprising receiving input from a user specifying times of day during which the viewer profile is to be used for identifying programming events of interest.

Claims 30-35 (Canceled)